AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. [Currently Amended] A method for controlled dissolution of a pharmaceutical product in a dissolution medium contained within a vessel, the method comprising steps of:

inducing a flow regime within the vessel characterized by high turbidity and minimum bulk movement of the dissolution medium; and

simultaneously mechanically dispersing solid particles of the pharmaceutical product on a bottom portion of the vessel.;

wherein the steps of inducing a flow regime within the vessel and simultaneously dispersing solid particles comprise steps of:

providing a brush body adapted to sweep a bottom portion of the vessel;

repeatably biasing the brush body into sliding engagement with the bottom portion of the vessel and;

causing controlled rotation of the brush body within the vessel.

2. [Cancelled] ~~A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the steps of inducing a flow regime within the vessel and simultaneously dispersing solid particles comprise steps of:~~

~~providing a brush body adapted to sweep a bottom portion of the vessel;~~

~~repeatably biasing the brush body into sliding engagement with the bottom portion of the vessel and;~~

~~causing controlled rotation of the brush body within the vessel.~~

3. [Currently Amended] A method as claimed in claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein the step of causing controlled rotation of the brush body comprises driving the brush body to rotate at a speed of between 10 and 150 RPM.

4. [Currently Amended] A method as claimed in claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein the step of causing controlled rotation of the brush body comprises driving the brush body to rotate in a selected direction.

5. [Original] A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the selected direction is constant for at least a duration of a dissolution test.

6. [Original] A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the selected direction is reversed at least once during a dissolution test.

7. [Currently Amended] A method as claimed in claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein the brush body comprises an open structure adapted to admit a flow of dissolution medium through the brush body due to rotation of the brush body within the vessel.

8. [Currently Amended] A method as claimed in claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein the brush body comprises a plurality of closely spaced filaments secured in a helical pattern about a support member.

9. [Currently Amended] A method as claimed in claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein the step of repeatably biasing the brush body into sliding engagement with the bottom portion of the vessel comprises a step of providing means for applying a consistently repeatable bias force to the brush assembly.

10. [Original] A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the means for applying a consistently repeatable bias force comprises any one or more of:

a spring;

an elastomeric element; and

a free-sliding coupling.